

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07
FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-02 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00
LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 L-03 NSC-05
PA-02 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 /095 W
----- 081725 /44

R 211435Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5871
INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR
AMCONSUL ADANA

UNCLAS ANKARA 9665

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ECC, TU
SUBJ: TURKISH PRESS REPORTING ON TURKEY-EC JOINT ASSOCIATION
COUNCIL MEETING, DECEMBER 20.

REF: ANKARA 9596

1. SUMMARY: PRESS REPORTING OF TURKEY-EC JOINT ASSOCIATION COUNCIL MEETING IS FACTUAL WITH LITTLE COMMENTARY. IT EMPHASIZES THEME THAT TURKEY HAS ACCEPTED "INSUFFICIENT" PACKAGE OF EC CONCESSIONS, BUT POINTS OUT THAT TURKEY DID GAIN IN SOME MINOR AREAS. PRESS QUOTES EXTENSIVELY FROM FOREIGN MINISTER CAGLAYANGIL STATEMENTS AT BRUSSELS. EMBASSY WILL REPORT FURTHER ON MEETING AFTER TURKISH GROUP RETURNS FROM BRUSSELS. END SUMMARY.

2. PRESS QUOTES CAGLAYANGIL AS SAYING THAT "IT HAS BEEN DECIDED AT THE MEETING THAT OFFICIAL DISCUSSIONS WILL CONTINUE WITH THE AIM OF CORRECTING BURDEN TURKEY FACES AS RESULT OF ANNEX PROTOCOL". WHILE ADMITTING THAT "IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO
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SAY THAT TURKEY RECEIVED THE ECONOMIC CONCESSIONS SHE DESIRED", CAGLAYANGIL IS QUOTED AS INSISTING FURTHER THAT "IN ORDER TO GET MORE CONCESSIONS FROM EC, TURKEY CAN NOT REMAIN INACTIVE BUT MUST USE PROVISIONS TO GET FURTHER CONCESSIONS IN THE FUTURE". REPORTEDLY CAGLAYANGIL STRONGLY URGED THAT EC " SHOW MAXIMUM CARE IN OUR MUTUAL RELATIONS

IN ORDER TO AVOID RECURRENCE OF CRISIS WE HAVE PASSED THROUGH".

3. PRESS IN GENERAL AGREES THAT TURKEY RECEIVED MINOR CONCESSIONS IN FOLLOWING AREAS:

A) SOME EXPANSION OF AGRICULTURAL CONCESSIONS ON PRODUCTS SUCH AS TOMATO PASTE, OLIVE OIL, CITRUS, FRESH GRAPES, HAZELNUTS AND FRUIT JUICE. PRESS POINTS OUT, HOWEVER, THAT THESE CONCESSIONS ARE STILL LESS THAN EC HAS GRANTED OTHER MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES.

B) SOME IMPROVEMENT IN THE MOVEMENT OF WORKERS. A TURKISH WORKER EMPLOYED IN ONE COUNTRY FOR A THREE-OR FIVE YEAR PERIOD, HAS APPARENTLY NOW GAINED NEW RIGHTS TO LOOK FOR EMPLOYMENT WITHIN THAT EUROPEAN COUNTRY. FURTHERMORE, WHEN AND IF EMPLOYMENT PICTURE IMPROVES IN EC COUNTRIES, PRESS SAYS EC GRANTING OF "SECOND PRIORITY" RIGHTS TO TURKISH WORKERS WILL IMPROVE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES.

4. REPORTING ON FINANCIAL CONCESSIONS AGREES THAT \$384 MILLION PACKAGE IS " VERY FAR FROM MEETING OUR NEEDS". PRESS POINTS OUT THAT TURKEY WAS NOT SUCCESSFUL IN GETTING FIVE YEAR PERIOD SHORTENED TO THREE YEARS AS IT HAD DESIRED.

5. IN A NOT UNEXPECTED DEVELOPMENT, NSP PARTY SECRETARY GENERAL CUMALIOGLU (ERBAKAN ISIN ITALY) IS QUOTED AS HAVING TOLD ANKARA PRESS AGENCY THAT DECISIONS TAKEN AT BRUSSELS MEETING ARE INSUFFICIENT AND CONTRARY TO TURKEY'S INTERESTS. MACOMBER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, ECONOMIC COOPERATION, FOREIGN RELATIONS, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, RELATIONS WITH REGIONAL ORGS, FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ANKARA09665
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760468-0654
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761222/aaaaassy.tel
Line Count: 88
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 ANKARA 9596
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchant0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 JUN 2004 by chengls>; APPROVED <12 NOV 2004 by buchant0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TURKISH PRESS REPORTING ON TURKEY-EC JOINT ASSOCIATION COUNCIL MEETING, DECEMBER 20.
TAGS: PORG, PFOR, ECON, EGEN, TU, EEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006